



# California Department of Veterans Affairs

## Veterans News

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### **NEWS FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

#### **GOVERNOR SIGNS VETERANS LEGISLATION AND PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR FIVE NEW VETERANS HOMES**

Today in Redding, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed four Assembly bills in support of California's true heroes, our military veterans.

"We are pleased the Governor took the opportunity to have this public bill signing ceremony at the City Hall in Redding," said Veterans Affairs Secretary Tom Johnson. "This event further demonstrates his support for veterans and his commitment to their well-being."

AB 2002 (LaMalfa) allows counties to place the words "Where We Honor Veterans" on county highway signs at or near the county line, at county expense. This gives local governments another way to honor their veterans. AB 2740 (LaMalfa) adds veterans' organizations to a list of groups that may use public school facilities for ceremonies, educational assemblies or celebrations. AB 1910 (Aghazarian) expands the issuance of disabled person and disabled veterans license plates to organizations that transport the disabled. This measure is good for veterans organizations that provide transportation for disabled veterans because it restores the Department of Motor Vehicle's authority to issue disabled license plates to such organizations. AB 2777 (Huff) expands the list of veterans organizations protected from false representation, which includes wearing, selling or using veterans insignia identified with the Armed Forces of the United States and its auxiliaries. The law protected only four veterans organizations. This bill provides protection for all current and future veterans organizations.

In addition to the four bills he signed today, Governor Schwarzenegger is committed to establishing five new veterans homes in California. These homes will be located in West Los Angeles, Ventura, Lancaster, Redding and Fresno. The California Department of Veterans Affairs is on track to complete these new homes, as planned, and the Governor pledged his full support for our efforts at today's bill signing ceremony.

To view a press release and the video of the Governor's Bill signing ceremony, please go to the following website: <http://gov.ca.gov/index.php?/press-release/3775/>

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*Note to editors: This News for Veterans and previous CDVA news for veterans, news releases, and advisories are available on our website at [www.cdva.ca.gov](http://www.cdva.ca.gov) and via e-mail from [jaime.arteaga@cdva.ca.gov](mailto:jaime.arteaga@cdva.ca.gov).*